

(19) World Intellectual Property
Organization
International Bureau



556654

(43) International Publication Date
25 November 2004 (25.11.2004)

PCT

(10) International Publication Number
WO 2004/102919 A1

(51) International Patent Classification⁷: **H04L 29/06**,
12/56, H04M 7/00

(21) International Application Number:
PCT/EP2003/050172

(22) International Filing Date: 16 May 2003 (16.05.2003)

(25) Filing Language: English

(26) Publication Language: English

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(81) Designated States (*national*): AE, AG, AL, AM, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BY, BZ, CA, CH, CN, CO, CR, CU, CZ, DE, DK, DM, DZ, EC, EE, ES, FI, GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, JP, KE, KG, KP, KR, KZ, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MA, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, MZ, NI, NO, NZ, OM, PH, PL, PT, RO, RU, SC, SD, SE, SG, SK, SL, TJ, TM, TN, TR, TT, TZ, UA, UG, US, UZ, VC, VN, YU, ZA, ZM, ZW.

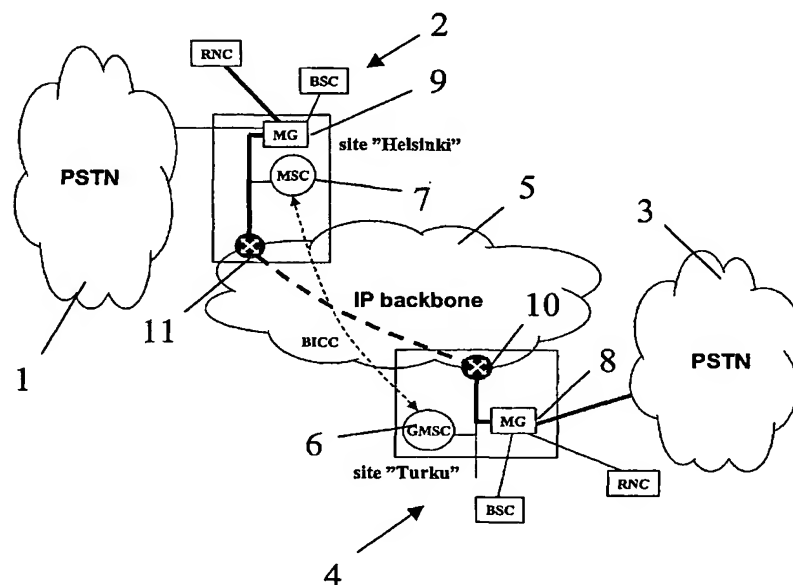
(84) Designated States (*regional*): ARIPO patent (GH, GM, KE, LS, MW, MZ, SD, SL, SZ, TZ, UG, ZM, ZW), Eurasian patent (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), European patent (AT, BE, BG, CH, CY, CZ, DE, DK, EE, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, HU, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PT, RO, SE, SI, SK, TR), OAPI patent (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GQ, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).

Published:

— with international search report

For two-letter codes and other abbreviations, refer to the "Guidance Notes on Codes and Abbreviations" appearing at the beginning of each regular issue of the PCT Gazette.

(54) Title: CALL ADMISSION CONTROL IN VOIP SYSTEMS



(57) Abstract: A method of controlling call admission within a system comprising a plurality of media gateways (8, 9) interconnected by a packet switched backbone (5). The method comprises, at least one media gateway (8, 9), monitoring the level of congestion suffered by incoming packets to that gateway from each other media gateway over said backbone. Following receipt of a request for a media gateway (8, 9) to terminate a bearer extending over said backbone (5) from a peer media gateway, making a decision on the admissibility of that request based upon the previously monitored level of congestion suffered by incoming packets from that peer media gateway.

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